

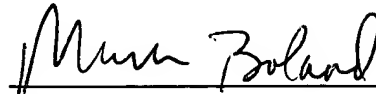
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Page 2

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are presented to eliminate the multiple dependent claims and thereby avoid the government surcharge, and to ensure the examination of all claims on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark Boland", is written over a horizontal line.

Mark Boland

Registration No. 32,197

SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN,  
MACPEAK AND SEAS, PLLC  
2100 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20037  
202-293-7060

Date: October 17, 1997